What's new at Shanna Schmidt Numismatics Inc. View this email in your browser

SHANNA SCHMIDT NUMISMATICS INC

Newsletter #230:

What's New at Shanna Schmidt Numismatics Inc.

Hello coin enthusiasts!

I'm happy to be back in Oak Park after a busy last couple of weeks. It seems like ages ago that I was in Zurich for the NAC auctions, although it was only 10 days ago. While there, I was able to view the Nomos and Leu auctions, both of which are soon (Leu starts tomorrow). For those who would like a Leu catalog, I have a few extras available, so please reach out if you need one. I recall that before the pandemic, the coin auctions took a brief pause in the summer. This is not the case today, where we have auctions happening continually. Some nice programs take place over the summer here in the U.S. as well as abroad. I'll fill you in on a few opportunities below.

Current Status: Tariffs on ancient coins
For the moment, it appears that we can circumvent tariffs on coins. However, this is not a guarantee. Bigger services, such as Malca Amit, have learned to work closely with their counterparts at CBP and use the correct, harmonized codes. I've experienced the situation where the correct code was used, and FedEx still charged me a 10% tariff. I will fight to get reimbursed for that fee, but it certainly doesn't give me confidence in our system. I think all we can do is try our best to avoid the tariffs, and we seem to be making that happen.

Madrid 2025 International Numismatic Event (25-28 June)
In its second year, the 2025 Madrid coin event will take place. The venue has changed from the lovely Four Seasons to the equally impressive Palace Hotel, an iconic hotel in the center of Madrid. This is not just a regular coin show. The organizers, Jesús Vico, Sedgwick & Associates, and Luis Domingo, have offered numismatic-focused talks (yours truly will participate in one), as well as events following the show's conclusion. There will also be a memorable day trip available for those interested to the monastery in San Lorenzo in the Escorial.

As I mentioned, I will be a presenter on Friday, June 27, at the conference. I will walk the show but will not take a table this year. I keep pushing off bringing my materials to an overseas show. It is more relaxing and fitting to walk and visit the dealers' tables.

If you find yourself with the possibility to be in Spain at the end of June, please consider this event! A link is here for those seeking additional information.

ANA Summer Seminar in two sessions (21-26 June and 28 June - 3 July)
The ANA will hold its annual summer seminar in two sessions in Colorado Springs. I've never personally attended, but I know from many who have that this event is life-altering for some. Young coin enthusiasts, collectors, both young and old, and even professional

many of the events are geared towards U.S. numismatics, a growing number of seminars cater to ancient coins and world coins. There is so much to offer that I recommend browsing the catalog to see what's available. These courses typically require a 2-week stay during the session, where you attend daily classes. Here is a link to what is available.

As the Leu auction begins tomorrow, this write-up from my last newsletter remains relevant.

Leu Numismatik Auction 17/18 (31 May-1 June)
Leu has two larger live auctions held in Zurich twice a year. This auction has 825 coin over the course of the two day, two catalog sales. The first auction, 17, is just with ancient coins. There are 525 total lots in the first part with a high percentage of Greek coins. The collection of Dr. Cora Flinsch (1920-2022). Being a female collector already caught my attention as there are few women collectors that are well known. I will look forward to viewing the coins from her collection. Lot 35 is a fantastic hemidrachm from Akragas. It has lovely cabinet toning and was purchased through Leu (1992-2005 and not to be confused with the Leu Numismatik that auctions them now). Lot 40 is off center on the obverse but the reverse has a compelling strike of the man-headed bull. It comes from a 1995 Sternberg sale. Lot 54 is a very rare didrachm that comes from an Ars Classica sale of 1933. Lot 70 is an early style Syracuse tetradrachm with a pedigree back to an M&M 1962 sale. Lot 79 is a charming and popular version of Arethusa with her hair in an updo. It comes from an Astarte sale from 1999. Lot 216 is an unusual unpublished 1/24 stater with an eagle on the obverse.

Other coins of interest outside of the Dr. Flinch collection are: lot 17, a didrachm of Neapolis with a fantastic strike and cabinet toning. This was from a Vinchon sale of 1978. Lot 93, a 12 litrae from the Fifth Democracy of Syracuse. This coin has a pedigree dating back all the way to 1880. Lot 102, a sharply struck and beautifully toned Thasos drachm. The pedigree goes back to a Platt auction from 1922. Lot 123 and 124 are two very lovely die staters of Alexander the Great. Seeing one in an auction is rare. Finding two very rarely ever happens. Lot 165, a pedigreed tetrobol from Kromna. It has a lovely patina with some iridescent toning. Lot 258 is a rare type from Judaea, struck during the Hellenistic period with an image of Ptolemy I on the obverse. This highly sought after type is remarkable in that graven images on Judaean coinage was strictly forbidden. This coin comes from an NAC 2020 sale.

Another small collection being offered is the Basileia Hellenika collection of Hellenistic coins. It includes 72 coins, many with old pedigrees. The collector, who remains anonymous, has recently finished collecting. There are three lots from the last NAC auction 149 on offer. The collection is well thought out and worth checking out.

Auction 18 consists of 300 lots of a few early medieval, crusader and islamic coins along with the vast majority being world coins and medals. According to the introduction in the catalog, this is the inaugural floor sale devoted to world coins and medals from the Middle Ages and the modern era.

MDC Monaco Auction 16 (3-5 June)
One day, I hope to attend one of these sales in person. The last time I was in Monaco was for my high school graduation, when my father invited me to accompany him to the IAPN conference that was being held in Monaco. I was 18 and had the time of my life there. It was my first real trip abroad as an adult. However, I digress. The MDC auction, which typically has a smaller selection of ancient coins, happens to have quite a few to choose from in this sale. The catalog is about 2 inches thick!

The first 771 lots are ancient, comprising a substantial section of the catalog. The first part of the Greek section includes larger sections on Greek electrum coinage, as well as a considerable section on Celtic coins. In particular, I noticed a large number of coins from Massalia and other Celtic Gaulish tribes. There was a larger-than-normal section on gold Celtic coins—a lot of types that I don't often see. There was a bigger selection of coins of Juba than what is typically offered in most auctions (lots 569-589).

The world section has some beautifully toned pieces from all over with an emphasis on French coinage. I recommend checking it out if you collect a particular area, as it offers a

The ancient coins are auctioned off at a reasonable hour in the U.S., probably to appeal to the many U.S. buyers. It starts at 2:00 CEST, which is 7:00 a.m. in my time zone (so 8:00 a.m. in the East and 5:00 a.m. in the West).

Nomos 30 (originally 5-6 April and rescheduled to 15-16 June)
I'm posting my previous insights on the Nomos auction from my earlier newsletter. I've deleted out any irrelevant parts based on the previous date.

The first collection is from the late Prof. James M. Collier. Collier was a huge supporter of the American Numismatic Society, and as is fitting, the proceeds from this sale will be used to benefit the Collier Prize in ancient numismatics that the ANS gives. The Collier Prize is awarded biennially to the best single or multi-authored work in ancient numismatics, with the winner(s) receiving $20,000 (to be split equally for a multi-authored work). The prize was first awarded in 2021 to Roman Imperial Coinage (RIC) II. There is also a lovely collection of coins from Massalia being offered under the Montecristo Collection. Finally, Robert Hoge was a former curator at the American Numismatic Association for 20 years from 1981 until 2001. After that, he became a curator at the American Numismatic Society from 2001 until his most recent appointment as Emeritus Curator. A few highlights of the sale include lot 30, a beautifully struck drachm from Massalia, which has a pedigree from a 1996 Sotheby's sale and was purchased from the numismatist Pierre Strauss of M&M Basel in May 1957. Lot 87, a superbly rendered nomos engraved by the artist known as Kal. This has a serene image of Athena paired with a dynamic reverse die of Herakles fighting the Nemean lion. There is even a little pert owl symbol in between the legs of Herakles. It comes from a Tradart sale in 1991. Lot 132 is a type that comes around, but usually not with a slithering ketos in the exergue. The obverse and reverse are both incredibly well struck for the type, showing all the imagery as the artist intended. There is even the lion's head spout on the right reverse of the coin visible for all to see. Lot 146 presents a rare opportunity to acquire a pedigreed drachm of Naxos. The surfaces are slightly corroded, but it is very pleasant otherwise from the video, and hails from the Hess-Leu 36 sale from 1968. Lot 167 is an incredibly affordable dekadrachm of Kimon (unsigned). It does have some die rust on the obverse and a die breath under Arethusa's chin along with some minor metal faults. It comes from a Sotheby's sale of 1999 and later a CNG MBS from 2002. This was from the Prof. James Collier collection. Lot 206 is one of the nicest diobols of Pantikapaion that I have seen in a while and has a superb pedigree from the Bement collection, sold in Naville in 1924. Lot 221 is a wonderful drachm of Thasos with beautiful toning and a great pedigree to match (Hess-Leu in 1971). Lot 309 is a rare early type from Athens were the ethnic and the olive branch swap positions. This example is perfectly centered and well toned. It comes from a private collection and was acquired in 1998. Lot 372 is a wonderful hekte with a janiform head that is less often seen; a nymph and satyr. The tunny fish in the exergue is also mostly visible. Lot 408 is a terribly rare type from Ephesos; a 1/24 electrum stater. This piece has the customary bee on the obverse but in electrum and in this denomination is seldom encountered. It as acquired by the owner in a 1972 private treaty with the numismatist Joel Malter. Lot 549 is a well sculpted and toned Kyrene drachm with a great pedigree going back to a Glendining auction from 1975, as well as being from the Hunt Collection (sold in Sotheby's in 1991). Lot 616 is a nicely struck Caesar denarius of the moving mint type with a reasonable estimate. Lot 640 is for those that want the entire 12 Caesar set in a beautifully custom built wood box. This comes from the Collier Collection. Lot 675 is a very attractive Judaea Capta bronze from Domitian. The olive green patina is quite pretty. Lot 690 is a well preserved Hadrian bronze drachm from Alexandria and was previously in the Col James Curtis collection when it was acquired by Ray Johnson in 1965. Lot 719 is a beautifully detailed and toned provincial tetradrachm of Caracalla from the Mesopotamian city of Edessa. Lot 723 is an affordable denarius of Elagabalus with the coveted Stone of Emessa on the reverse. It comes from the Collier collection and was purchased from Spink's in June of 2001. Lot 776 and 777 are two lovely struck Justinian II solidii with both a long and short haired version of Christ. Both are well-centered and affordable. Lot 790 is the excessively rare Leo VI, the Wise, gold solidus. This example has a well struck reverse of Leo with a slightly worn but still lovely image of the Virgin Mary.

Coin of the week

AR Tetradrachm, 14.42g (25mm, 9h).
Laureate head of Zeus r. / Philip or Youth riding horse to r. holding branch. ΦΙΛΠ-ΠΟΥ around. pellet in Π below raised leg. Branch under horse

Pedigree: Ex Grapevine Collection

References: SNG ANS 686 Var, Le Rider pl 46n. 11.

Grade: Beautifully struck with sharp detailed strike and iridescent toning. Mint State

Price: $7500

gk2004

Buy Coin

the ruling dynasty of the Macedonians from c. 700 BC. The last of the Argeads was Alexander the Great, the son of Philip II. The Argead dynasty traced its origins back to Argos, in the Peloponnese, southern Greece.

Philip was a master in terms of military strength. His most enduring reform was the introduction of the military prowess of the Macedonian phalanx. This was a classical military tactic of soldiers standing close to one another, in other words, a mass formation with weaponry. Philip added the use of a sarissa, a 6-metre pike that was employed at the front of this formation. The phalanx consisted of 16 files, each with 16 men, totaling 256 soldiers. Philip and later his son Alexander used this as a tool for holding the enemy, and then employed heavy cavalry to break through.

Coin on my website

If you are interested in any other coins I have to offer please visit my website: shannaschmidt.com

Until next week!
Shanna

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